

United States Department of the Interior

BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

Pecos District Office
2909 West Second Street
Roswell, New Mexico 88201
www.nm.blm.gov

IN REPLY REFER TO:

1610 (500)

Dear Reader:

Enclosed for review and comment is the Draft Special Status Species Resource Management Plan Amendment (RMPA) and Environmental Impact Statement (EIS). This document describes and analyzes alternative plans for managing public land and Federal minerals in portions of Chaves, Eddy, Lea and Roosevelt Counties in southeast New Mexico.

The purpose of this review is to help the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) in its decision-making process. We welcome your comments. While you will be able to make verbal comments at the public open houses, we encourage you to also send them in writing to the following address:

Howard Parman, RMPA/EIS Team Leader
BLM Pecos District Office
2909 West Second Street
Roswell, New Mexico 88201

In addition to mailing comments, you may also send them via e-mail to NMRFO_Comments@blm.gov or fax them to BLM at 505-627-0212. E-mailed or faxed comments must indicate in the subject line that they are "Comments on the Draft Special Status Species RMPA/EIS." All written comments must be postmarked (e-mail and fax must be received) within 90 days following the date the Environmental Protection Agency Notice of Availability is published in the *Federal Register* in order to be considered in the Proposed RMPA/Final EIS. Where possible, include references to the pages and paragraphs in your comments.

Comments are most useful when they address one or more of the following:

- Errors in the analysis;
- New information that would have a bearing on the analysis;
- Incorrect information that may have been used which could affect the outcome of the analysis;
- Request for clarification; and
- Identification of a substantive new alternative that is different from any of the existing alternatives.

Comments, including names and street addresses of respondents, will be available for public review at the BLM Pecos District Office during regular business hours (7:45 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.), Monday through Friday, except holidays, and may be published as part of the RMPA/EIS. Individual respondents may request confidentiality. If you wish to withhold your name or street

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address from public review or from disclosure under the Freedom of Information Act, you must state this prominently at the beginning of your written comment. All submissions for

organizations or businesses, and from individuals identifying themselves as representatives or officials of organizations or businesses, will be made available for public inspection in their entirety. Written and oral comments that result from the 90-day review period will be considered fully and evaluated in preparing the Proposed RMPA/Final EIS.

The public open houses will be held during the 90-day review period. Dates and addresses for these meetings will be advertised in the local news media and listed on the New Mexico BLM website: <http://www.nm.blm.gov>. During the open houses, information explaining the environmental planning process and the document will be displayed. BLM specialists will also be available to discuss the Draft RMPA/EIS.

When completed, this RMPA will amend the Bureau of Land Management's 1988 Carlsbad Resource Management Plan and the 1997 Roswell Resource Management Plan.

Sincerely,

Douglas J. Burger
District Manager

Enclosure